

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph [0003] with the following amended paragraph:

[0003] This application includes techniques, devices and systems that use [a] two polarization elements in a polarization monitoring device to monitor the polarization state of light.

Please replace the paragraph [0004] with the following amended paragraph:

[0004] In one implementation, a method for monitoring polarization of light includes the following steps. A first partial polarization beam splitter is used to split by reflection a fraction of light in one of first and second mutually orthogonal polarization directions from an input beam to produce a first monitor beam. A second partial polarization beam splitter is used to split by reflection a fraction of the light in the one of the first and second mutually orthogonal polarization directions from the input beam to produce a second monitor beam. The first and second partial polarization beam splitters are oriented to have their polarization axes to be 90 degrees with each other. The first and the second monitor beams are then converted into first, and second detector signals, respectively. A difference between the first and the second detector signals [are] is used to indicate an amount and a direction of a deviation in a polarization of the light from a known direction.

Please replace the paragraph [0010] with the following amended paragraph:

[0010] This application is in part based on the recognition that a polarizer when used as a polarization

monitoring device may not be sufficiently sensitive to variations in polarization when the polarizer is operated at angular locations A, B, or C in a transfer curve of the polarizer as a function of the polarizer angle. This is illustrated in FIG. 1. If the polarizer is set at the angle A (maximum transmission) or B (minimum transmission) in monitoring the polarization, the transmission power of the polarizer is least sensitive to a change in the polarization since the slope at A and B is zero. In addition, at these two operating angles A and B, the power change in the transmission of the polarizer does not directly indicate the direction of the polarization variation from the direction of the polarizer.